

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A gas generator, comprising ignition means (10), a gas generating agent (50) ignited by said ignition means (10) for generating gas by combustion and a housing including a gas generating agent storage chamber filled with said gas generating agent therein while said housing is vertically held and fixed by a pair of platelike members (71, 72) arranged in parallel with each other,

further comprising a deformable area to be deformed to decrease the vertical outside dimension of said gas generator when fixed by said pair of platelike members (71, 72).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 1, wherein said deformable area includes a plastic deformable area to be plastically deformed when held and fixed by said pair of platelike members (71, 72).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 2, wherein at least either a top plate or a bottom plate vertically located on said housing includes an outwardly protruding projection (45), and  
said projection (45) constitutes said plastic deformable area.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 3, wherein said projection (45) is provided on a part of said housing partitioning/forming said gas generating agent storage chamber.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 3, wherein

said housing includes an AC cup (40)-storing said gas generating agent (50)-and a holder (20)-having a flange part (23)-and a caulking part (24)-for fixing said AC cup (40)-on the periphery thereof for fixing said ignition means (10), and

    said projection (45)-is provided on the bottom surface of said AC cup (40)-constituting the top place of said housing.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 5, wherein the inner surface of one of said pair of platelike members (71, 72)-is in contact with the outer surface of planarly formed said flange part (23)-while the inner surface of the other one of said pair of platelike members (71, 72)-is in contact with said projection (45)-provided on the bottom surface of said AC cup (40) in the state where said gas generator is held and fixed by said pair of platelike members (71, 72).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 6, wherein said AC cup (40)-includes a side surface for deriving gas generated by combustion of said gas generating agent (50)-diametrically from said housing by opening in working, and at least one score extending in parallel with the axial direction of said housing, forming the starting point of said opening, is provided on said side surface.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 1, wherein said deformable area includes an elastic deformable area to be elastically deformed when held and fixed by said pair of platelike members (71, 72).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 8, wherein

at least either a top plate or a bottom plate vertically located on said housing includes a protrusion (46) having an outwardly protruding top face of a prescribed size, and said elastic deformable area is constituted of a part (47), enclosing said protrusion (46), of said top plate or said bottom plate provided with said protrusion (46).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 9, wherein said protrusion (46) is formed by press working, and the upper end of said ignition means (10) is inserted into and positioned on a recess (44) formed on the inner surface of said housing by said press working.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 9, further comprising a combustion control member (30) located between said ignition means (10) and said gas generating agent storage chamber for supplying directivity to a flame formed in said ignition means (10), wherein  
said protrusion (46) is formed by press working,  
the upper end of said combustion control member (30) is inserted into a recess (47) formed on the inner surface of said housing by said press working, and  
said ignition means (10) is inserted into and positioned in said combustion control member (30).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 9, wherein said housing includes an AC cup (40) storing said gas generating agent (50) and a holder (20) having a flange part (23) and a caulking part (24) for fixing said AC cup (40) on the periphery thereof for fixing said ignition means (10), and

said protrusion (46) is provided on the bottom surface of said AC cup (40) constituting the top plate of said housing.

    Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 12, wherein the inner surface of one of said pair of platelike members (71, 72) is in contact with the outer surface of planarly formed said flange part (23) while the inner surface of the other one of said pair of platelike members (71, 72) is in contact with the top face of said protrusion (46) provided on the bottom surface of said AC cup (40) when said gas generator is held and fixed by said pair of platelike members (71, 72).

    Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 13, wherein said AC cup (40) includes a side surface for deriving gas generated by combustion of said gas generating agent (50) diametrically from said housing by opening in working, and at least one score extending in parallel with the axial direction of said housing, forming the starting point of said opening, is provided on said side surface.

    Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 8, further comprising an elastic member (63) located on the outer surface of at least either a top plate or a bottom plate vertically located on said housing, wherein said elastic member (63) constitutes said elastic deformable area.